

Connecticut Town Clerks Association, Inc.

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Written Testimony

Mark H. Bernacki, New Britain Town & City Clerk and Legislative Chair

Connecticut Town Clerks Association

HB 6105, An Act Concerning Access to Original Birth Certificates by Adult Adopted Persons

Planning & Development Committee

February 3, 2021

Good morning Senator Cassano, Representative McCarthy Vahey, Senator Hwang, Representative Zullo and the distinguished members of the Planning & Development Committee, thank you for affording me the opportunity to submit this testimony on **HB 6105, An Act Concerning Access to Original Birth Certificates by Adult Adopted Persons**. My name is Mark Bernacki. I am the Town Clerk of New Britain and the Legislative Chair of the Connecticut Town Clerks Association.

Town Clerks are responsible for maintaining the vital records (birth, marriage and death) of our towns and support legislation to allow adoptees to receive an UNCERTIFIED copy of their original birth certificate. During the 2019 session, we had the opportunity to meet with the leadership of the Planning & Development Committee as well as Karen Caffrey, President of Access Connecticut Now, Inc. on this issue of access to original birth records by adult adopted persons and support HB 6105. The timeframe and fees associated with all written requests for these vital records will be identical to current law.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.